Amendments to the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for ~~treating~~ increasing active IGF-I levels ~~a disorder characterized by dysregulation of the Growth Hormone/Insulin-like Growth Factor (GH/IGF) axis~~ in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal an effective amount of an Insulin-like Growth Factor-I (IGF-I) variant wherein the amino acid residue at position 16, 25, or 49 or the amino acid residues at positions 3 and 49 of native-sequence human IGF-I are replaced with an alanine, a glycine, or a serine residue.

2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the mammal has increased ~~disorder is a hyperglycemic disorder, a renal disorder, congestive heart failure, hepatic failure, poor nutrition, a wasting syndrome, or a catabolic state wherein the~~ Insulin-like Growth Factor Binding Protein-1 (IGFBP-1) levels ~~are increased~~ relative to such levels in a normal mammal ~~without such a disorder~~.

3. (currently amended) A method for treating reduced renal function ~~a renal disorder~~ in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal an effective amount of an Insulin-like Growth Factor-I (IGF-I) variant wherein the amino acid residue at position 16, 25, or 49 or the amino acid residues at positions 3 and 49 of native-sequence human IGF-I are replaced with an alanine, a glycine, or a serine residue.

4. (currently amended) The method of claim 3 wherein the reduced renal function ~~disorder~~ is due to chronic or acute renal failure.

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 3 further comprising administering to the mammal an effective amount of a renally-active molecule that promotes readsorption and retention of electrolytes selected from the group consisting of ~~peptide, sulfonyl-containing, sulfonamide-containing~~, peptides, sulfonamide compounds, phenylsulfonamidopyrimidines and phenyl-sulfonyl-aminopyrimidine derivatives, angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors and antibodies to endothelin. ~~inhibitor or antibody molecule that promotes reabsorption or retention of electrolytes.~~

6. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the mammal is human.

7. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the amino acid residues at positions 3 and 49 of native sequence human IGF-I are replaced with alanine residues.

8. (withdrawn) A kit comprising a container containing a pharmaceutical composition containing an IGF-I variant wherein the amino acid residue at position 16, 25, or 49 or the amino acid residues at positions 3 and 49 of native-sequence IGF-I are replaced with an alanine, a glycine, or a serine residue, and instructions directing the user to utilize the composition for treating a disorder characterized by dysregulation of the GH/IGF axis in a mammal.

9. (withdrawn) The kit of claim 8 wherein the disorder is a hyperglycemic disorder, a renal disorder, congestive heart failure, hepatic failure, poor nutrition, a wasting syndrome, or a catabolic state wherein the IGFBP-1 levels are increased relative to such levels in a mammal without such a disorder.

10. (withdrawn) The kit of claim 8 wherein the disorder is a renal disorder.

11. (withdrawn) The kit of claim 10 further comprising a container containing a renally-active molecule.

12. (withdrawn) The kit of claim 10 wherein the disorder is chronic or acute renal failure.

13. (withdrawn) The kit of claim 8 wherein the mammal is human.

14. (withdrawn) The kit of claim 8 wherein both amino acids are replaced with alanine residues.

15. (previously presented) The method of claim 3 wherein the mammal is human.

16. (currently amended) The method of claim 3 wherein the amino acid residues at positions 3 and 49 of native-sequence human IGF-I are replaced with alanine residues.

17. (new) A method for enhancing renal function in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal an effective amount of an Insulin-like Growth Factor-I (IGF-I) variant wherein the amino acid residue at position 16, 25, or 49 or the amino acid residues at positions 3 and 49 of native-sequence human IGF-I are replaced with an alanine, a glycine, or a serine residue.

18. (new) The method of claim 17 wherein the renal function to be enhanced is due to chronic or acute renal failure.

19. (new) The method of claim 17 further comprising administering to the mammal an effective amount of a renally-active molecule that promotes readsorption and retention of electrolytes selected from the group consisting of peptides, sulfonamide compounds, phenylsulfonamidopyrimidines and phenyl-sulfonyl-aminopyrimidine derivatives, angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors and antibodies to endothelin.

20. (new) The method of claim 17 wherein the mammal is human.

21. (new) The method of claim 17 wherein the amino acid residues at positions 3 and 49 of native-sequence human IGF-I are replaced with alanine residues.

22. (new) A method for treating type II diabetes in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal an effective amount of an Insulin-like Growth Factor-I (IGF-I) variant wherein the amino acid residue at position 16, 25, or 49 or the amino acid residues at positions 3 and 49 of native-sequence human IGF-I are replaced with an alanine, a glycine, or a serine residue.

23. (new) The method of claim 22 wherein the mammal is human.

24. (new) The method of claim 22 wherein the amino acid residues at positions 3 and 49 of native-sequence human IGF-I are replaced with alanine residues.